

~~SECRET~~

9/5/75

TELETYPE URGENT-PRIORITY

TO: DIRECTOR NR. -05  
LEGAT, BRASILIA NR. -05  
FROM: LEGAT, BUENOS AIRES (109-103)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FOREIGN POLITICAL MATTERS-ARGENTINA; ARGENTINE TERRORIST  
ACTIVITIES; FPM-ARGENTINA.

ON SEPTEMBER 4, 1975, A CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE ABROAD, WHO IS  
AN OFFICER WITH THE CORDOBA PROVINCIAL POLICE, REPORTED THAT  
LEONARDO CASTELLI, THE PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR FOR TRANSAX,  
A FORD MOTOR COMPANY SUBSIDIARY, WAS SERIOUSLY WOUNDED DURING  
THE MORNING OF SEPTEMBER 4, 1975, AS THE RESULT OF A TERRORIST  
ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT IN CORDOBA. THE SOURCE NOTED THAT THE  
TRANSAX COMPANY HAD RECENTLY BEEN THE TARGET OF ANOTHER  
TERRORIST OPERATION ON AUGUST 27, 1975 WHEN TERRORISTS ABDUCTED  
TRANSAX EMPLOYEE MARCELO JOSE DI FERNANDO. THE SOURCE NOTED THAT  
DI FERNANDO'S BODY WAS RECOVERED THE NEXT DAY IN CORDOBA.

ON SEPTEMBER 5, 1975, A CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE ABROAD WHO IS  
A RANKING OFFICIAL WITH THE FEDERAL POLICE OF ARGENTINA (FPA), ~~(S)~~ (U)

3 - Bue (109-103)  
(1 - 80-178 Salas)  
(1 - 80-87 [Crovetto]) ~~(S)~~ (U)  
RWS:gjk  
(3)

5-1-01  
CLASSIFIED BY 39063 E!W/BCE/cpb  
DECLASSIFY ON 25X 1/6  
Argentina Project

80-87-

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

PAGE TWO

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ADVISED THAT A MEETING WAS ORDERED DURING SEPTEMBER 4, 1975 BY PRESIDENT PERON IN ORDER TO CONSIDER THE CRITICAL TERRORIST SITUATION IN ARGENTINA. THE SOURCE NOTED THAT THE ARGENTINE CABINET, THE THREE ARMED FORCES CHIEFS, THE CHIEF OF THE FPA AND DEPUTY CHIEF, PARTICIPATED IN THIS CONFERENCE. THE SOURCE ADVISED THAT THERE WAS GENERAL AGREEMENT THAT MORE VIGOROUS COORDINATED ACTION MUST BE TAKEN IN ORDER TO CONTROL THE MOUNTING WAVE OF TERRORISM IN ARGENTINA. ~~(S)~~ (U)

~~CLASSIFIED BY 5931, XGDS 1 AND 2, INDEFINITE.~~

ADMINISTRATIVE. REMYCABLE, AUGUST 28, 1975 UNDER THE ABOVE DUAL CAPTION, WHICH REPORTED THE ABDUCTION OF THE TRANSAX EMPLOYEE ON AUGUST 27, 1975.

FIRST SOURCE IS COMISARIO LUIS ALBERTO SALAS, CORDOVA PROVINCIAL POLICE.

SECOND SOURCE IS COMISARIO MAYOR JORGE CROVETTO, DIRECTOR OF FEDERAL SECURITY, FPA. ~~(S)~~ (U)

COORDINATED LOCALLY.

END

~~SECRET~~

THE AMBASSADOR  
VIA DCM

8/26/75

LEGAT ROBERT W. SCHERRER

ARGENTINE TERRORIST ACTIVITIES

~~Sp6 Ag/KAL  
(S) (6)  
# 90-0371 10-24-95  
390638W/DC/Argentine Project  
5/11/07~~

On 8/25/75, a ranking official of the Federal Police of Argentina (FPA) Intelligence Service provided the following information regarding the recent death of Montonero leader MARCOS OSATINSKY in Cordoba: ~~(S)~~ (U)

According to the FPA delegation in Cordoba, OSATINSKY, whose Montonero code name was "SANTIAGO," was picked up approximately three weeks ago by Cordoba Provincial Police and members of Governor LACABANNE's Security Detail. OSATINSKY was severely tortured by members of Governor LACABANNE's Security Detail over an extended period of time; however, he refused to divulge any information. OSATINSKY was in such bad shape that it became obvious he would have to be killed rather than produce him alive since the marks of torture would be obvious. In order to dispose of OSATINSKY, whose detention was known among extremists in Cordoba, it was decided to stage his assassination in connection with a fictitious rescue attempt. Three Cordoba Provincial Police Officers volunteered to take part in the charade with the understanding they would have to submit to being slightly wounded during the performance. ~~(S)~~ (U)

The hijacking of the hearse transporting OSATINSKY's body from Cordoba to Tucuman was not carried out by the Montoneros as indicated in the press, but by the same members of Governor LACABANNE's Security Staff, who had tortured OSATINSKY. The purpose of stealing his body was to prevent the body from being subjected to an autopsy, which would have clearly shown that he had been tortured. It is doubtful that OSATINSKY's body will ever turn up. ~~(S)~~ (U)

Attached is a photograph of OSATINSKY taken during 1972 at Rawson Prison. ~~(S)~~ (U)

- 1 - Addressee
  - 5 - Buenos Aires
    - (1 - 109-2)(1 - 109-103)
    - (1 - 105-Montoneros) (U) - 80-
    - (1 - 105-1098-OSATINSKY) Provetto ~~(S)~~ (U)
- RWS:JR  
(6)

CLASSIFIED BY 5931  
EXEMPT FROM GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION  
SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652  
EXEMPTION CATEGORY 5B(2)  
AUTOMATICALLY DECLASSIFIED ON INDET

~~SECRET~~

~~DECLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY DERIVED FROM:  
FBI AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE  
DATE 7/10/96 page 1  
Sp6 Ag/KAL/RRK~~

77-40

~~SECRET~~



2/28/75

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CODE

CABLE ~~NR~~ IMMEDIATE (O)

TO: DIRECTOR NR. -028  
FROM: LEGAT BUENOS AIRES (109-2) 2P  
~~SECRET~~  
FPM - ARGENTINA; IS - ARGENTINA.

DURING THE AFTERNOON OF FEBRUARY 27, 1975, A COMMUNIQUE WAS RECEIVED FROM THE MONTONEROS IN CORDOBA, ARGENTINA, INDICATING THAT U. S. CONSULAR AGENT JOHN PATRICK EGAN WOULD BE EXECUTED AT SEVEN P.M., FEBRUARY 28, 1975, UNLESS FOUR TERRORISTS ALLEGEDLY TAKEN PRISONER BY THE GOVERNMENT ARE PRODUCED. ~~(S)~~ (U)

A CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE WHO HAS FURNISHED RELIABLE INFORMATION IN THE PAST ADVISED THAT AT LEAST TWO OF THE TERRORISTS WERE SUMMARILY EXECUTED BY THE FEDERAL POLICE OF ARGENTINA OFFICERS IN CONNECTION WITH "NO HOLDS BARRED" CAMPAIGN AGAINST TERRORISM IN ARGENTINA. ~~(S)~~ (U)

ADMINISTRATIVE: REMYCAB FEBRUARY 27, 1975. [SOURCE IS COMISARIO MAYOR JORGE CROVETTO, SECRETARY GENERAL, FEDERAL] ~~(S)~~ (U)

1 - 163-604  
1 - 80-[Crovetto] ~~(S)~~ (U)  
RWS:jn  
(3)

~~5/12/01  
CLASSIFIED BY 39063 Bw/BCE/cpl  
DECLASSIFY ON: 25Y 16  
Argentina Project~~

80-87-34

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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BUE 109-2

[POLICE OF ARGENTINA.] ~~(S)~~ (U)

~~CLASSIFIED BY 5931 XGDS-2 INDEFINITE.~~

END.

~~SECRET~~

THE AMBASSADOR  
VIA ACTING DCN

1/16/75

ROBERT W. SCHNEBER, LEGAL ATTACHE

[FEDERAL POLICE OF ARGENTINA] (S) (U)  
CORDOBA PROVINCIAL POLICE

As reported in the local news media, HECTOR LUIS GARCIA REY recently mysteriously resigned as the Chief of the Cordoba Provincial Police (CPP) for "personal reasons." GARCIA REY was replaced by AMERICO ARGUELLO, a career CPP officer.

On January 13, 1975, an official of the Federal Police of Argentina (FPA) provided the following information: (S) (U)

According to FPA officers assigned to the staff of FPA Chief LUIS MARGARIDE, GARCIA REY traveled to Asuncion, Paraguay, on January 13, 1975, or January 14, 1975, for the purpose of personally contacting Argentine Ambassador to Paraguay, Col. (R) JORGE OSINDE. It is noted that the latter served as the FPA Director of Intelligence during the Peron Government, prior to the 1955 military coup. According to MARGARIDE's staff members, GARCIA REY's purpose in contacting OSINDE is to enlist the Ambassador's support in replacing MARGARIDE as FPA Chief. MARGARIDE's staff members advised that MARGARIDE was enraged when he learned of GARCIA REY's intentions and is extremely apprehensive that GARCIA REY might succeed in ousting him with OSINDE's backing. (S) (U)

- 1 - The Ambassador, Embassy, Asuncion
- 1 - POL
- 1 - POL/R
- 1 - DAO
- 1 - SY

~~SECRET~~  
Classified by 5931  
Exempt from General Declassification  
Schedule of Executive Order 11652  
Exemption Category 3B(2)

- 1 - Addressee
- 4 - Buenos Aires (64-2) Automatically declassified on INDET  
(109-2) (FPM Argentina)  
(109-3) (FPM - Paraguay)  
(80-87) [Comisario Mayor Jorge Crovetto] (S) (U)

RWS:jn  
(10)

6/1/01  
39063 E/W BCF/sam  
156  
Argentina Project

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~~SECRET~~

THE AMBASSADOR

1/9/75

LEGAL ATTACHE

[FEDERAL POLICE OF ARGENTINA] ~~(S)~~ (U)

On 1/8/75, an official of the Federal Police of Argentina (FPA), who had been assigned to the Department of Federal Security (DFS) until his recent reassignment due to promotion, provided the following personal observations regarding the DFS operations: ~~(S)~~ (U)

During the past three months young commissioned and non-commissioned FPA officers assigned to DFS have undertaken raids, kidnappings and assassinations against extremists. With increasing regularity, various groups made up of up to five DFS officers have acted independently without specific orders in carrying out raids, kidnappings and assassinations of extremists. The main purpose of these independent acts has been to secure money and valuables from leftists and extremists. A disturbing number of these young commissioned and noncommissioned officers have adopted life styles well beyond their police salaries which obviously are being supported from loot taken from extremists and leftists. Several young commissioned and noncommissioned officers have acquired expensive automobiles, have taken on mistresses which they previously could not afford to maintain, and sport expensive, flashy clothing. ~~(S)~~ (U)

The previous policy in DFS regarding currency and valuables recovered in extremist raids was to place any such proceeds in the DFS secret funds for future use in operating informants or acquiring equipment that could not be traced to the FPA. ~~(S)~~ (U)

- cc's: 1 - Addressee
- 1 - SY
- 1 - POL-R
- 2 - Bue (64-2)
- (1) - 80-87

RWS:gjk  
(5)

[Comisario Mayor Jorge Crovetto] ~~(S)~~ (U) (Source)

~~SECRET~~  
Classified By 5931  
Exempt from General Declassification  
Schedule of Executive Order 11652  
Exemption Category 5-B(1)  
Automatically declassified on INDET

*5/12/01*  
*39063EW/BCG/cph*  
*Argentine Project*

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~~...~~

*80-87-31*



~~SECRET~~

RE: [ FEDERAL POLICE OF ARGENTINA ] ~~(S)~~ (U)

Should an unauthorized raid, abduction, or assassination backfire, requiring that it be officially reported, the officers involved concoct a cover story indicating that their actions resulted from information provided by an anonymous tip or from acting on their gut feeling that an individual encountered on the street might be an extremist or leftist. Because of these activities, which are increasing, the DFS professional analysis and evaluation of intelligence secured during these unauthorized raids has not been carried out due to the very nature of these activities. ~~(S)~~ (U)

Source noted that the flow of intelligence going into DFS files has slowed down to a trickle and that many of the younger commissioned and noncommissioned officers only act on information where they believe they can secure a monetary gain. The source indicated his personal opinion of this situation was that it was extremely critical since the DFS has become literally an undisciplined mob of unprincipled young commissioned and non-commissioned officers. The source stated that he is not alone in this conclusion and that several other senior responsible FPA officials believe that some form of action will have to be taken in the immediate future to restore discipline and professionalism to the DFS. ~~(S)~~ (U)

~~SECRET~~